

Learning Disabilities
affect 10% of the population
– that's 800,000 Ontarians!

If you suspect
you or your child has
learning disabilities
we can help you . . .

we are the



Idawe • Learning Disabilities
Association of Windsor-Essex County

The Learning Disabilities
Association of
Windsor-Essex County
is committed to assisting
children, youth and adults
with learning disabilities
and those who support them
through information sharing,
support, and relevant programs.

Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor-Essex County Membership application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____

Postal Code _____

Phone _____

Annual dues

Family/Individual	\$50.00
Student	\$20.00
Professional	\$75.00
Institutional	\$125.00

I would like to support the work of the LDA. Please
find enclosed my donation in the amount of _____

Membership advantages

- Subscription to publications, *Communique* and *National* and the *Local*
- Affiliation with local, provincial and national levels of LDA (Learning Disabilities Association)
- Free information about learning disabilities

Please make cheque payable to:
Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor-Essex County



Idawe • Learning Disabilities
Association of Windsor-Essex County

647 Ouellette Avenue, Suite 101
Windsor, Ontario N9A 4J4
Phone: (519) 252-7889 • Fax: (519) 252-4169
E-mail: info@ldawe.ca
www.ldawe.ca

Idawe

Learning Disabilities Association of Windsor-Essex County

*The right to **LEARN**,*
*The power to **ACHIEVE***



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Common signs of learning disabilities

People with learning disabilities will exhibit **SOME**, but probably **NOT ALL** of these signs:

- Difficulty or failure in reading, writing, spelling or arithmetic.
- Verbal skills much better developed than written skills
- Restlessness, short attention span, hyperactivity
- Poor coordination and spatial disorientation
- Frequent anxiety, frustration or anger due to inability to cope in school, social and work situations
- Trouble with auditory and/or visual memory
- Lack of organization
- Poor or inappropriate social skills
- Negative self-esteem

Learning disabilities are defined as a neurological dysfunction, which interferes with the brain's capacity to process information in the conventional manner.

People with specific learning disabilities exhibit a disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or using spoken or written language.

These may be manifested in disorders of listening, thinking, talking, reading, writing, spelling or arithmetic. The primary cause of this dysfunction is not due to visual, hearing or motor handicaps, to developmental disabilities, emotional disabilities, emotional disturbance, or to environmental disadvantages.

People with learning disabilities can learn – provided they are appropriately identified and taught to develop the necessary coping skills to reach their potential.

Your local LDA can help you

- Provides information and referral services
- Sponsors workshops and conferences
- Maintains a community lending library
- Provides social skills training
- Provides parent advocacy training
- Provides basic literacy and numeracy tutoring
- Provides recreation programs
- Facilitates employment support programs
- Works with the local school boards and has representatives on their Special Education Advisory Committees (SEAC)
- Works to enhance public awareness and understanding of learning disabilities
- Provides transition planning programs
- Provides adaptive technology training

If someone cannot learn the way they are taught, then he or she should be taught the way they can learn.

The first step is identification

Trust Your Instincts. If you suspect your child or yourself might have learning disabilities, first consult your doctor to rule out more obvious problems such as hearing or vision difficulties. If this is not the case, raise your concerns with your doctor about the possibility of learning disabilities. All area doctors have information on learning disabilities. The next step is to get your child or yourself assessed for learning disabilities.

Why: Research, as well as adults who have learning disabilities, tell us that the most important component of future success is proper identification followed by appropriate special education support.

Who: Registered psychologists and doctors may be involved in diagnosing a learning disability. They can administer standardized tests which include formal and informal information gathering.

Where: Contact the Special Education staff at your school board, a mental health treatment facility or a private psychologist.

When: As soon as you suspect a problem.

A good assessment is the first step towards getting help. After the assessment is done, meet with the psychologist to ensure that you know what has been identified and what can be done to aid in your future success or that of your child.

Other components of future success are:

- Understanding the learning disability and its impact now and in the future.
- Having someone who believes in you and supports you no matter what happens.
- Good coping and compensatory skills so that the impact of the learning disability can be reduced.
- Accommodations through assisted devices (computers, calculators, tape recorders, etc.).

